

**REMARKS**

By this amendment claims 1-5 are deleted and new claims 6-10 have been entered for examination. Therefore, on entering this amendment, claims 6-10 are all the claims pending in this application.

Presently deleted claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on JP 9-2774 and further based on Mayauchi (US 4,724,732).

The Applicants traverse the rejections and request reconsideration.

***Formal Matters***

The Applicants filed a request for a corrected Official Filing Receipt (OFR) on December 19, 2001. However, the corrected OFR has not yet been received. The Examiner is requested to provide the Applicants with a corrected OFR.

Applicants filed two IDSs in the present case; a first IDS dated July 11, 2001, and a second IDS dated April 19, 2002. However, the Applicants have not received an initialed and signed copy of the PTO Form 1449 corresponding to the second IDS. The Examiner is kindly requested to provide the Applicants with the same.

***Section 112 rejections and claim objections***

The Applicants respectfully delete claims 1-5. The newly presented claims 6-10 are believed to be bereft of the section 112 issues as well as the grounds for the claim objections raised by the Examiner.

***Prior art rejections***

The following remarks refer to the technical distinctions between the newly presented claims and the presently cited references.

In the present invention as in claim 6, the speed patterns are different in long cutting and short cutting operations. However, the control patterns for the position are given on the basis of the same combination of the electronic cam curves regardless of long or short cutting operations.

Further, in the present invention, as recited in claim 6, position control is performed during both cutting or non-cutting operations. However, the position control pattern of the cutting section is different from that of the non-cutting operation.

This invention specifically uses electronic cam curve of a cubic function for the non-cutting operation.

Miyauchi discloses only long cutting operations and is completely silent about the short cutting operation. Furthermore, Miyauchi neither discloses (nor suggests) the electronic cam curve used for the cutting section. Still further, Miyauchi does not disclose (or suggest) how to control the cutting section. Finally, it does not mention position control being performed over a whole region.

JP 9-277114 merely discloses conventional related art without teaching nor suggesting the features of the present invention.

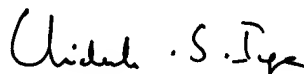
Claims 7-10 are dependant on claim 6 and are patentable for the same reasons.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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